



France

National developments in 2025



Discussions on the practical implementation of the Pact and the accompanying legislative amendments continued in 2025, with no law proposal passed yet. Authorities conducted three rounds of consultations with civil society and international organisations (such as UNHCR and UNICEF) for recommendations on the arrangements. The European Commission determined France to be at risk of migratory pressure due to a high number of secondary movements by applicants and increasing illegal exits towards the UK.¹

OFPPA delivered the highest number of asylum decisions in 2025 since its establishment, substantially clearing its backlog.² Digitalisation initiatives continued in various areas to improve efficiency in the asylum procedure and deliver high-quality decisions. AMIF projects continued to pilot the use of AI tools, for example for document searches and to modernise OFPPA's digital tools.³ The pilot is not used to test the drafting of decisions.

OFPPA opened a new office in Cayenne to strengthen its presence in the overseas territories and adapt to new trends in international protection.⁴ The operationalisation of the France Asile territorial hubs – adopted under the Law for Controlling Immigration and Improving Integration in 2024⁵ – begun, with a pilot site opening in the Val-d'Oise department in May 2025.⁶

The Constitutional Council ruled that Article L.523-1 of the Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum (CESEDA), adopted under the Law for Controlling Immigration and Improving Integration, violates the Constitution as it allowed the detention of asylum applicants even in the absence of a pending removal procedure, when house arrest is insufficient and when the applicant: i) represents a threat to public order; or ii) submits an asylum application to an authority not responsible for receiving such applications and there is a risk of absconding. The council considered that the provisions lacked sufficient justification and procedural guarantees.⁷ The council was not seized of the provisions of Article L.523-1 allowing the house arrest of such asylum applicants. As regards the decree implementing the Law for Controlling Immigration and Improving Integration, the High Administrative Court annulled the provisions for the application of detention under Article 523-1 of CESEDA. In addition the High Administrative Court found the provisions contrary to EU law which allow the house arrest of an applicant who submits an asylum application to an authority that is not responsible for receiving such applications and when there is a risk of absconding.⁸

In addition, the Constitutional Council ruled that parts of the Law Aimed at Facilitating the Continued Detention of Persons Convicted of a Particularly Serious Offense and Presenting a High Risk of Recidivism were unconstitutional. This concerned provisions on the detention of criminally-convicted foreigners (and unrelated to asylum applicants). This time, the council upheld the provisions which reintroduce the possibility to detain an asylum applicant, even in the absence of a pending removal procedure, when house arrest is insufficient and the applicant: i) represents a serious and existing threat to public order; or ii) for the purpose of determining the grounds on which the asylum application is made, when the application is not submitted to the competent authority and there is a proven risk of absconding. The council took into account the redrafting of Article L. 523-1 of CESEDA and confirmed that it now includes additional procedural guarantees.⁹ The decree for the application of the Law Aimed at Facilitating the Continued Detention of Persons Convicted of a Particularly Serious Offense and Presenting a High Risk of Recidivism was adopted on 26 December 2025.¹⁰

Changes were proposed to provisions on information, legal assistance and interpretation, and transferring the responsibility of these tasks in detention centres and waiting areas at the border to OFII.¹¹ Legislative amendments now allow authorities to electronically send the asylum seekers' guide to applicants, and a paper copy is only provided in exceptional circumstances.¹² Following measures to streamline appeals procedures, which led to the opening of five territorial chambers in 2024, two additional chambers were established for the CNDA in Nantes and Marseille in 2025, leading to a total of 7 territorial chambers in action at the end of 2025.¹³ Family reference forms for beneficiaries of international protection were gradually phased out, as the civil status and family situation of a person are available to OFPPA at an earlier stage of the asylum procedure.¹⁴

Preparatory work and consultations kicked off the merging of emergency accommodation into regular reception places in the national reception system. At the same time, almost 6,000 places were closed as a result of cost-saving plan.

The annual circular on integration defined priorities for the year: language learning, social orientation, employment, implementation of the AGIR programme and the expansion of territorial reception and integration contracts (CTAls).¹⁵ A new circular, co-signed by the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Labour, was published on strengthening the professional integration of legally-residing foreign nationals, in particular into occupations with shortages.¹⁶ The AGIR programme¹⁷ was fully deployed in mainland France in July 2025 to offer individualised support to beneficiaries of international protection for their integration. Authorities confirmed that the target to support 25,000 beneficiaries was nearly reached. By December 2025, among beneficiaries who were supported for at least 6 months, 37% were both employed and with housing, while 43% were employed and 65% secured housing. The Opening Schools to Parents for Children's Success (OEPRE) programme was revised, aiming to become a comprehensive social, language and professional integration tool.¹⁸

France committed to resettle 3,000 refugees from nine countries (Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Rwanda and Türkiye) in 2025. This pledge included 500 Afghan women and their descendants from Türkiye as part of the "Avec Elles" initiative, launched in 2023.¹⁹ A first selection mission took place in Côte d'Ivoire, with 64 refugees selected. In addition, France committed to assess the resettlement of around 150 refugees through its unallocated quota. New protocols were signed on the implementation of humanitarian corridors for Syrians and Iraqis from Lebanon, eight new refugee students arrived through the "Univ'R" education pathway, and the labour pathways initiative "DT4E 2.0" for refugees continued to be explored.

More input from civil society:

- [European Network on Statelessness](#)
- [Forum réfugiés](#)
- [Safe Passage International France](#)

France

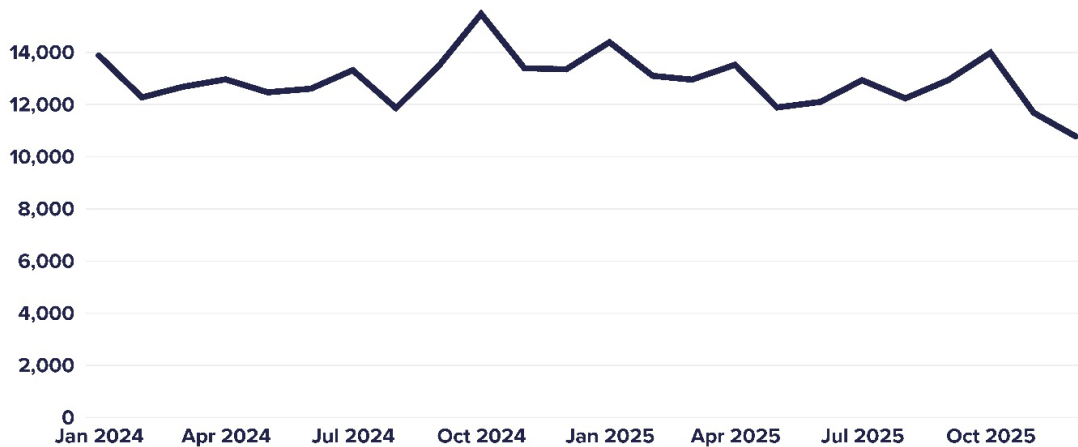
Key indicators for 2025



Rank by number of asylum applications 2	Rank per capita (applications per 1M inhabitants) 11	Share of applications in EU+ 18.5%	Recognition rate 40%
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Indicator	2025	2024	% change	Top 3 countries of origin
Asylum applications	152,291	157,552	⇒ -3%	Afghanistan (10%), Haiti (9%), Congo (DR) (9%)
Pending cases (Dec '25)	55,252	66,196	↓ -17%	Congo (DR) (11%), Haiti (9%), Afghanistan (7%)
First instance decisions	151,041	137,789	↑ 10%	Ukraine (10%), Afghanistan (9%), Guinea (8%)
Refugee status	30,446	29,879	⇒ 2%	Afghanistan (29%), Guinea (11%), China (7%)
Subsidiary protection	30,019	22,153	↑ 36%	Ukraine (43%), Haiti (31%), Sudan (5%)
Negative	90,576	85,757	↑ 6%	Congo (DR) (10%), Guinea (9%), Côte d'Ivoire (7%)

Evolution of asylum applications, 2024-2025



For more developments, please consult the [Asylum Report 2026](#) and the [National Asylum Developments Database](#).





Sources

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- ⁶ [Arrêté du 8 avril 2025 portant création d'un site pilote prévu à l'article R. 520-2 du code de l'entrée et du séjour des étrangers et du droit d'asile](#) [Order of 8 April 2025 establishing a pilot site as provided for in Article R.520-2 of the Code on the Entry and Residence of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum], 11 April 2025.
- ⁷ France, Constitutional Council [Conseil constitutionnel], [Association GISTI \(Groupe d'information et de soutien des immigrées\) and others](#), 2025-1140 QPC, ECLI:FR:CC:2025:2025.1140.QPC, 23 May 2025. Link redirects to the English summary in the EUAA Case Law Database.
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- ⁹ [Décision n° 2025-895 DC du 7 août 2025](#) [Decision No 2025-895 DC of 7 August 2025], 12 August 2025.
- ¹⁰ [Décret n° 2025-1345 du 26 décembre 2025 modifiant le code de l'entrée et du séjour des étrangers et du droit d'asile](#) [Decree No. 2025-1345 of 26 December 2025 amending the code on the entry and residence of foreigners and the right of asylum], 28 December 2025.
- ¹¹ Vie publique. (15 May 2025). [Proposition de loi relative à l'information et l'assistance juridiques en rétention administrative et en zone d'attente](#) [Draft law relating to legal information and assistance in administrative detention and waiting areas].
- ¹² [Décret n° 2025-403 du 5 mai 2025 portant modification de l'article R. 521-16 du code de l'entrée et du séjour des étrangers et du droit d'asile](#) [Decree No 2025-403 of 5 May 2025 amending Article R. 521-16 of the Code on the Entry and Residence of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum], 6 May 2025.
- ¹³ [Décret n° 2025-756 du 1er août 2025 portant création des chambres territoriales de la Cour nationale du droit d'asile de Marseille et Nantes et relatif à la procédure applicable devant la Cour nationale du droit d'asile](#) [Decree No 2025-756 of 1 August 2025 establishing the territorial chambers of the National Court of Asylum in Marseille and Nantes and relating to the procedure applicable before the National Court of Asylum], 3 August 2025.
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- ¹⁶ Ministry of Education (France) | Ministère de l'Éducation nationale. (9 October 2025). [Bulletin officiel n° 38 du 9 octobre 2025](#) [Official Bulletin No 38 of 9 October 2025].
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- ¹⁹ Global Compact on Refugees. (n.d.) [Multi-stakeholder Pledge: Avec Elles – Strengthening protection and inclusion of refugee women and girls through all phases of displacement](#).